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**Cc:** Fong, Wendy[Fong.Wendy@epa.gov]  
**From:** HarryL Allen  
**Sent:** Thur 7/28/2016 4:00:35 PM  
**Subject:** Weekly Report of Emergency Response, Preparedness and Prevention Branch for the Week of 07/29/2016

### Highlights of Past Week

**Tucson Mercury in Face Cream, Tucson, AZ:** START deployed to West Budmoore Terrace, Tucson, on July 20, 2016 at the direction of OSC Wise. A mother sought care for a sick child for chronic health issues persisting for two months. The hospital later confirmed mercury poisoning from blood and urine tests. The mother had disposed of bed linens in the outdoor trash can.

Representatives from Pima County Health Department and the Tucson Fire Department arrived to observe assessment activities. START surveyed each of the rooms in the house to identify potential mercury vapor sources. The assessment began with screening the air inside the garbage can which showed concentrations of mercury of approximately 17,000 ng/m<sup>3</sup>. Upon entering the house the levels were approximately 2,500 ng/m<sup>3</sup>, in the ambient air, which is above a typical risk threshold of 1,000 ng/m<sup>3</sup>. A few household items were determined to be contaminated such as a washer and the kitchen table.

EPA coordinated with City Fire, County Health and ADEQ emergency response personnel on next steps. A local contractor, Southwest Hazard Control provided an estimate for cleanup of less than \$5,000 dollars. Subsequently, the property owner has agreed to pay for the cleanup. (Contact: Harry Allen x23063).



**3M Lane Wildland Fire Site, Mountain Ranch, CA:** From July 18 to July 22, 2016, EPA and State agencies (CalRecycle and DTSC) and contractor personnel conducted removal operations at this site. The site consisted of an industrial garage type structure with cinderblock walls and burned out electrical metal equipment and ash debris inside the walls. CalRecycle conducted an assessment of the site after the Butte Fire under the State's Debris Management Program and found elevated metals and dioxins concentrations in the debris and ash. EPA assistance was specifically requested to help CalRecycle and DTSC in support of the removal effort. Cleanup completion is pending the receipt and distribution of removal confirmation soil sample analytical data and final acceptance of all hazardous waste loads at the designated off-site facility. (Contact: Craig Benson, 562-889-1630).

**Apache Road Drum Site, Adelanto, CA:** OSC Benson and CI Whitenack were on-site July 26, 2016 with San Bernardino County CUPA personnel to continue the oversight of PRP cleanup activities. To date, approximately 21,000 gallons of chromium contaminated solutions have been consolidated and shipped off-site. Another approximate 5,000 gallons of the solution and 27 drums of acidic waste remain to be shipped. The PRP is complying with the terms of the County NOV and the EPA Notice of Federal Response Action. EPA, the County and the PRP and PRP contractors have discussed remaining steps (final waste shipment, drum recycling, etc.) and completion of this PRP voluntary removal action without an enforcement action is expected by the end of August. (Contact: Craig Benson, 562-889-1630).

**Argonaut Tailings Site, Jackson, CA:** OSCs Rogow and Waldon continue to oversee geotechnical data collection activities as well as residential yard erosion repairs. The field work should be completed by 7/29. (Contact: Michelle Rogow, 415-595-8347).

**Significant Items for Next Week**

**Press Stories, Significant Policy, Regulatory, or Legal Actions (2-3 Weeks Out)**

**Grant Announcements**

**Legislative Engagement**

**Travel, Public/National Meetings, and Speaking Engagement for Division Director**

**Exide Technologies:** On July 28, Steve Calanog and Dan Meer met with DTSC management to discuss organizational structure and management objectives for DTSC's cleanup of lead contaminated properties in Vernon, CA. Ana Mascarena and Zoe Bayar were present for DTSC (Contact D. Meer 2-3132).

**30-60 Day Outlook**

**Other Information**

**Internal to Region 9**

**Internal to Division**

**Confidential Information**

